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DD/A Registry
File Personnel-11-3

DDA 78-1324

29 March 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR: Acting Director of Central Intelligence

FROM: John F. Blake
Deputy Director for Administration

Frank:

1. You have solicited a brief statement of position of those who have feelings on collaborating with potential producers of Agency-based TV shows. I vote in the negative and will bow to those who favor to develop their own argumentation.

2. Succinctly stated, I view with disfavor based on the following:

a. I am of the opinion that a great segment of the American society thinks their intelligence service should conduct its work in secrecy, being held accountable to the President and the Congress. We have as much, or more, to lose as we have potential to gain by this endeavor.

b. Our witting involvement in this endeavor will further erode the confidence that foreign liaison services have with us.

c. I don't buy the analogy that such a production could do for us that which "Your FBI" did for them. The FBI was founded by Hoover in 1922 and was probably the most highly respected U.S. governmental institution before commercial television ever came on the scene circa 1946.

d. The only thing the producers would really want to show is the one thing we should want to withhold--operational tactics.

e. If Senators like Moynihan want to see our initials out of the newspapers, I suspect what their reaction would be when they see it on the boob tube.

JFB:jmk

John F. Blake

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